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Application No. 09/699,224
Amendment dated September 13, 2006
After Final Office Action December 29, 2005

Docket No.: BOS/3

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An isolated peptide mimic of a conserved gonococcal lipo-oligosaccharide (LOS) epitope not found on human blood group antigens, wherein said peptide mimic is capable of inducing in a mammal an immune response against said conserved gonococcal lipo-oligosaccharide (LOS) epitope and wherein said peptide mimic comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 is less than 50 amino acids in length.

Claim 2 Cancelled.

Claim 3 (original): The peptide mimic according to claim 1, wherein the immune response is T-cell dependent.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 1-~~or 2~~, wherein the amino acid sequence of the peptide mimic comprises cysteine residues at each terminus.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 4, wherein a cyclic peptide is formed through disulfide bridges between the cysteine residues at each terminus of said amino acid sequence.

Claim 6 (previously amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 5, wherein the peptide mimic is coupled to a second agent.

Claim 7 (original): The peptide mimic according to claim 6, wherein the second agent is an adjuvant.

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Claim 8 (currently amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the peptide mimic further comprises an adjuvant or a carrier protein.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the peptide mimic is part of a multiple-antigen peptide (MAP).

Claim 10 (currently amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said peptide mimic competes with gonococcal lipooligosaccharide (LOS) for binding to monoclonal antibody 2C7.

Claim 11: Cancelled.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The peptide mimic according to claim 1, wherein the peptide mimic immunospecifically binds to monoclonal antibody 2C7.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 1, wherein the peptide mimic immunospecifically binds to a monoclonal antibody produced by immunizing a mammal with an anti-idiotypic monoclonal antibody, or antigen-binding fragment thereof, produced by a hybridoma cell line having the specific immunological reactivity of a monoclonal antibody antibodies produced by hybridoma cell line HB 11311 as deposited with the ATCC.

Claim 14: Cancelled.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A composition for immunizing against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic according to any one of claims 1, 3, [[1-3]], 5-7, 12 and or 13.

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Claim 16 (previously presented): A composition for immunizing against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claims 17-23 Cancelled.

Claim 24 (withdrawn/currently amended): A method for immunizing a mammal against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising the step of administering to said mammal an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic according to claim 1 or claim 3 ~~any one of claims 1-3~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 25 (withdrawn/currently amended): A method for immunizing a mammal against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising the step of administering to said mammal an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic according to claim 12 or claim 13 ~~any one of claims 11-14~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 26 (withdrawn/currently amended): The peptide mimic according to claim 1-~~or 11~~, wherein the peptide mimic is coupled to a complement protein.

Claim 27 (withdrawn): The peptide mimic according to claim 26, wherein the peptide mimic is coupled to complement protein C3d.

Claim 28 (withdrawn): A method for immunizing a mammal against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising the step of administering to said mammal an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic according to claim 27 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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Claim 29 (withdrawn): A composition for immunizing against *N. gonorrhoeae* infection comprising an immunoprophylactically effective amount of a peptide mimic according to claim 27.

Claim 30 (withdrawn/currently amended): A method for increasing the antigenicity of a peptide mimic according to claim 1 or 11 comprising the step of coupling said peptide mimic to a complement protein.

Claim 31 (withdrawn): The method according to claim 30, wherein the complement protein is C3d.